

Congregation

◆◆◆"Beth Yosef"◆◆◆

\*\*\* 2108 Ocean Parkway Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223 \*\*\*

**Rabbi Aharon Farhi**

**Parashat *Terumah***

4<sup>th</sup> Adar 5783

**Mr. Eliyahu Levy, President**

**Maqam Bayat**

Issue #1019

**Haftarat *VaHashem Natan***

February 25<sup>th</sup> 2023

*Candle Lighting 5:23pm \* Shekiah 5:41pm \* Shir Hashirim 5:20pm followed by Minha Friday Night  
Shaharit Shabbat 8:15am \* Minha Shabbat 5:05pm \* Shabbat Ends 6:24pm & Rabbenu Tam 6:54pm  
Time for Talit 5:31am \* Seasonal Hour 6:50:00 \* Alot Hashahar 5:18am \* Netz Hachama 6:36am  
Weekday Minha 5:35pm \* Earliest Time for Arbit 4:59pm \* Tzet Hacoachavim 6:19pm \* Chatzot 12:08  
Latest Time for Morning Keriat Shema 8:23am \* Latest Time for Morning Amidah 9:28am*

**Sponsored by: Mr. Chaim Shalouh HaCohen and his family.**

May Hashem bless them with spiritual and physical success,  
Leilui Nishmat his father ***Yosef Ben Amelia a”h***, Amen.

*Those who wish to contact Rabbi Aharon Farhi can call (646) 552-3412*

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The Midrash teaches us: When Bnei Yisrael declared *Naaseh Venishmah*, we will do and we will listen, accepting the yoke of heaven, Hashem then commanded: *They shall make a Sanctuary for Me – so that I may dwell among them*. What is the connection? *Naaseh Venishmah* is a declaration that lacks action, and requires action in order to be validated. Hashem wanted them to prove their words through action as a nation. He therefore commanded: *Take for me a Terumah*. The Pasuk says: *This is the portion that you shall take from them: gold, silver, and copper; turquoise, purple, and scarlet wool...* The most noticeable component used in the structure of the holy Mishkan was gold. The planks, the height of three people, were covered with gold, as well as the bars. The incense altar was covered with gold. The partition was plated with gold. The holy Aron was covered with gold. The cover and the Cherubim were pure gold, as well as the Menorah. The table was also covered with gold. There is great significance to gold. It is beautiful, elegant, and distinguished, symbolizing the spiritual connection between Hashem and his chosen nation. Also, it does not wear out and erode, even if it is left underground for a long period of time, symbolizing the great everlasting

connection between us and our creator. Our sages teach us: silver corresponds to the merciful judgment of Hashem while gold represents the exact and precise judgment of Hashem. Silver is light colored -symbolizing mercy, while gold has a reddish complexion, like a fiery torch. Silver is related to the merciful name of Hashem, ‘Havayah’, while gold is related to the exact and precise, without mercy, name of Hashem, ‘Elokim’. Now, let us examine a little further. The Mishkan was a place where Hashem rested his holy Shechinah. The high priest spoke Hashem’s name of mercy there on Yom Kippur. The Torah in the Aron is called the Merciful Torah. Why is gold the main component of the Mishkan? The Zohar says: gold was created for the purpose of its use in the Temple. Why was the temple built with Hashem’s attribute of exact judgment? The Rama Mponu explains: mercy is found in times of danger. Forces of impurity, wickedness, and evil constantly wish to penetrate and overpower holiness and purity and take over their places. Mercy is therefore used to protect from such harm and damage, to keep away the hateful forces. At the same time, exact judgment must be exercised in order to properly avoid and safeguard against any potential problems with impurity and evil. The Torah and

the Luchos were placed in the golden Aron. The holy services, which brought down great spiritual and physical influence with mercy, were carried out within the golden walls, under covers of fine materials, engulfed with mercy, while wearing white garments covered with a robe of turquoise wool with golden bells, the addition of exact judgment, the protector and safeguard. What does all of this teach us? Within our hearts we are obligated to judge others favorably, and think in merciful ways with love. Towards ourselves, however, we must be strict and exact in order to prevent potential troubles, providing a strong force against impurity. We find the same concept by Tzitzit. Tzitzit is white, signifying the mercy. But it is grouped with a string of Techelet, which then connects it with exact judgment. That one string specifically is the safeguard and protector. Both mercy and exactness must be exercised with a balance and functioned at their correct stations in order to fulfill our purposes and serve Hashem. This is a great lesson for life. May Hashem watch over us, Amen.

### **Insights on the Parasha**

**1** – *You shall make a Menorah of pure gold.* The Torah writes about the Table (Shulchan) before writing about the Menorah. The Table symbolizes the supporters of Torah, and the Menorah symbolizes one who learns Torah. Zevulun, the supporter of Torah, was written in the Torah before Yissachar, the learner. The reason for this is because one who learns may not always do so completely for the sake of heaven (Lishmah), while one who supports Torah already gets credit once he gives over the money.

### **History in Brief**

*100 years after the Hurban, 170AD.* On his last day, Rebi Shimon Bar Yohai wrote the *Adra Zuta Kadisha*. While preparing to leave the world, his students surrounded him, including his son R' Elazar, R' Abba, and other Chaverim. Seeing his home filled with his students, R' Shimon began to cry, and said that when he was sick, before him was his father-in-law R' Pinchas Ben Yair, and he was working on securing his place in Gan Eden. Now he is here. When he awoke, he saw himself surrounded with fire that never left, and only those he allowed could come close to him. But now the

fire was gone, while the house is full of students. After he cried, the fire returned and surrounded the house. They all left the house besides two: his son R' Elazar and R' Abba. He then told his son to go out and tell R' Yitzchak to come in, where he will be protected while being fortunate to stay with him. Afterwards he asked his son R' Elazar to bring back in the Chaverim. R' Shimon then lifted his hands in prayer. He then instructed only those who were with him when he wrote the *Adra Zuta* to stay. Everyone left except his son R' Elazar, R' Abba, R' Yehuda, R' Yossi, and R' Chiya. Then R' Yitzchak entered, and R' Shimon commented how fortunate is his portion.

### **Health and Recovery**

Vitamin D is a nutrient your body needs for building and maintaining healthy bones. That's because your body can only absorb calcium, the primary component of bone, when vitamin D is present. Vitamin D also regulates many other cellular functions in your body. Its anti-inflammatory, antioxidant and neuroprotective properties support immune health, muscle function and brain cell activity. Vitamin D isn't naturally found in many foods, but you can get it from fortified milk, fortified cereal, and fatty fish. Your body also makes vitamin D when direct sunlight converts a chemical in your skin into an active form of the vitamin (calciferol). The amount of vitamin D your skin makes depends on many factors, including the time of day, season, latitude and your skin pigmentation. Depending on where you live and your lifestyle, vitamin D production might decrease or be completely absent during the winter months. Sunscreen also can decrease vitamin D production in the summer months. It is best to go outdoors, under the sun, during the hours of 10:00am-3:00pm. Nowadays, people remain indoors for most of the day, without enough windows, skylights, and access to sunlight. We have become accustomed to temperature-controlled environments, heating and cooling, and don't even open the windows to allow fresh air into our living spaces. Electricity has taken the place of sunlight. We sometimes barely even open the shades to allow the sunlight in. Neighboring buildings are tall and block much of the direct sunlight as well. All these factors greatly decrease our chances of receiving vitamin D through

sunlight, especially during the winter months when the day is much shorter and the hours of sunlight significantly decreased.

### **Mussar: Imperfection**

Nobody is perfect. Everyone makes mistakes and has their package of flaws and sins that they need to work on correcting. Only Hashem is complete and perfect. Unfortunately, man has the custom to see the flaws of others, and often does not see his own imperfections. Perhaps his flaw may even be greater than that of his friend. Seek out the truth and develop yourself properly. Go to the Rabbanim and ask for constructive criticism. Fear heaven and always do the right thing, even if you may not fully understand. Change for the better a little bit each day and declare, *'When will my actions reach the level of my forefathers Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov?'* Pray for success and truth. One time, a Jewish man in Bagdad came before the great *Rav Yosef Chaim (Ben Ish Hai)* and explained that his neighbor was a sinner. He asked if he must sell his house and move, as the Mishnah states *'Distance from a neighbor that is bad'*. The Rav explained that he must actually read the Mishnah in this situation as *'Distance a neighbor from bad'* – meaning, he must pray and work with wisdom to show his neighbor the truth. One mustn't always abandon his neighbor just because he is at fault, rather he must sometimes find a way to rid his neighbor of the fault, thereby eliminating the need to move altogether. This man listened to the Rav and was successful in helping his neighbor repent.

### **The Passing of Moshe Rabbenu a"h:**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of Adar, Moshe Rabbenu was born into the world and passed away 120 years later. We are obligated to commemorate this day in remembrance of our Rebbe. The Limud for this day will take place Monday night February 27<sup>th</sup> in Beth Yosef after we pray Minha and Arbit, Limud starting at 6:00pm, and will continue for two hours until 8:00pm. Please join us in this Limud and be a part of this great merit. *"Remember the Torah of My servant Moshe"* – This is fulfilled on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Adar. For a full and complete one hundred twenty years Moshe lived, as Tzaddikim utilize their time completely. *"The number of your days I will fill"* On this day the Moon ceased to fall as Moshe departed from our midst. Parashat Tetzaveh is read next to the week that the 7<sup>th</sup> of Adar falls out on. It is the first Parasha since Moshe's birth that does not mention his name. That day the gates of Torah were closed. Rav Yehuda says

in the name of Shemuel: 3,000 Halachot were forgotten when Moshe passed away. Some say Moshe never died. In one place it is written, *"He died there"* and in another place it says, *"He is there with Hashem"*. Just as there he was serving Hashem, so too even after his passing he is still serving Hashem. Within every member of our nation resides Moshe Rabbenu. His resting place is unknown, because he does not rest, but is actually actively guiding us, and is therefore titled a *"Roeh Ne'eman"* (trusted leader). Moshe is and will stand for our benefit and protection. May Hashem guard us from evil and wrong, Amen.

### **Gaon R' Shimon Ba'adani zt"l 1928-2023**

In 1953, as the world of Torah known today in Israel was in its early development, R' Shimon was appointed to be responsible for the Yeshiva students who came from outside of the city Jerusalem. His close colleague R' Shimon Cohen helped with this, giving Shiurim in the Yeshiva, and helping the students grow in their learning. After the Yeshiva was destroyed during the war in 1948, young men came from all over Israel to Yeshiva. R' Ba'adani had the custom to visit Maran, a Segulah to see his face of holiness, as is written in Sefarim, but he was always looking down while learning and he never had a chance to really see him. When would he be able to see his face? On Friday night, during Kiddush, when he would look up to see the Shabbat candles, at that moment he was able to take a look at his face.

### **Story**

The terminally sick father of Yosef the Shabbat desecrator was asking the Chafetz Chaim for a blessing for health. He asked if the Chafetz Chaim would pray for him. The Chafetz Chaim answered that the holy day of Shabbat is the source of all blessings. If the father promised to be responsible to make sure that his household properly observed the sanctity of Shabbat, then he would receive the best blessing for health and recovery. The father was shocked to hear these words. He assured the Chafetz Chaim that his family would absolutely properly observe Shabbat for the sake of his full recovery. He then asked for a blessing. The Chafetz Chaim's son-in-law, having witnessed this conversation, which showed the great divine sight that the Rebbe possessed, to know about the Shabbat desecration without being told, quickly went back to R' Zalman, the Rabbi of the sick man's city, and told him what

had happened. They were amazed by the Ruach Hakodesh of the Rebbe. The man returned to his family, enforced that they properly observe Shabbat moving forward, and within a few weeks he was completely healed from his terminal illness. His family did a full Teshuvah.

### **Laws: Honor of Shabbat**

**1** – Before Shabbat one should search through his clothing to make sure he will not be wearing something that includes a Muktzeh item. Also, he should check his pockets to make sure he will not carry something when he goes outside.

**2** – One is really only required to light one flame in honor of Shabbat, however the custom is to light two, for Shamor and Zachor. It is a Mitzvah to light more candles – some light ten for the Ten Commandments, and some light according to the number of members in the household. When lighting many candles, it is best to separate two candles specifically for Zachor and Shamor.

**3** – One who has the custom to light more than two candles must continue to light that amount every week.

**4** – One who spends Shabbat out of his home is allowed to light only two, even though he usually lights more at home.

**5** – One should preferably light with olive oil, however nowadays the other oils are good enough to use for lighting as well.

**6** – There should be enough oil so that the flame stays lit until the end of the Friday night Seuda.

**7** – One who lights at home and then eats the meal at another location, must make sure they stay lit until he returns. If he plans to return very late, he should at least leave electric light on in honor of Shabbat.

### **Sponsors**

\*\*\* **Mr. Taleb Hara, his wife Becky, and their children.** Blessings, Refuah Shelemah, and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Yossi Betesh and Devorah**, and Mazal Tov to the bride and groom **Ike and Shira**, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* **Hacham Avraham Sardar, his wife Nina, and their children.** Blessings, Refuah Shelemah, and success for the entire family, Amen. \*\*\* Askan Tzibur **Mr. Aslan Bawabe, his wife Mira, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family,

wishing **Mr. Mordechai Allaham HaCohen** blessings of success and prosperity, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Aharon Abadi, his wife Shella, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Mazal Tov to **Jack Aboudi and his wife Silya on the birth of twins**, Mabrouk, Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Soly, Hillel, Arlet, and Sophie of the Bawabe Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Rachel Bat Shafika a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Azar, David, Charlie, Estella, and Arlit of the Halabi Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their sister **Sonia Bat Rachel a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Sammy, Simon, and Rina of the Esses Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their father **Ovadia Ben Rina a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Toby Cohen, his wife Shella, and their children.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat her father **Avraham Ben Badia a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Mr. Isaac Shakalo and his sisters: Gracie, Shella, Violet, Stella, and Claudi.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Bella Bat Kahila a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Jack, Joey, Raizy, Vera, and Lina of the Sardar Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Rachel Bat Alvira a”h**, Amen. \*\*\* **Blessed siblings: Mr. Henri and his wife Shella, and Mr. Morris and his wife Mira, of the Abadi Family.** Blessings and success for the entire family, Leilui Nishmat their mother **Salha Bat Leah a”h**, Amen.

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